

WOULD DECREASE NAVY TO ONE SQUADRON KEPT IN THE PACIFIC

U. S. Sends Pointed Note to Five Great Powers Insisting on Payment of The Cost of The Rhine Army

NAVY YARDS TO BE DROPPED IF SHIPS REDUCED

Norfolk Naval Base Might Be Only One Retained if Fleet Transferred to Pacific.

PLANNING REDUCTION OF MEN TO 65,000

Navy Department Studying How Many Ships It Could Make if Proposed Cut Is Made.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Radical reductions in the navy discussed by house appropriation committee members may result in naval abandonment of Atlantic waters and concentration of the fleet in the Pacific, some navy officials believe.

Efficient training for war of the reduced establishment, it was explained by one officer today, would require much action.

The navy department has made no plans, so far as is known, as to steps to be taken should congress order a reduction of enlisted personnel to 65,000, as is understood to be the plan of the house appropriations sub-committee.

Only 12 War Dogs.

Studies have been made, however, of the number of major craft it would be possible to keep in commission even with reduced complements of that basis, and these are said to have shown that not more than 12 battleships, or two-thirds of the naval limitation treaty strength of the fleet, could be operated, with the destroyers and other auxiliary craft necessary for working out fleet problems and keeping the navy aloft in trim for war.

The belief of some officers that consolidation of the floating navy into a single fleet in the Pacific would result from so radical a cut in size arises from their conviction that it would be impossible to give necessary war training otherwise.

In the Pacific. There is every reason to expect, these officers believe, that if the navy is reduced to a one-fleet basis, that fleet would be stationed in the Pacific because American overseas interests lie largely in those waters.

It was said to be apparent that it would not be necessary to maintain all of the six Atlantic coast navy yards and other bases and stations designed only to serve the fleet. From a strategic point of view, many naval officials regard the Norfolk naval base as the only one essential even with the fleet in the Pacific.

HOUSE APPROVES ARMY REDUCTION

May Also Order Back Troops in China, Hawaii and Canal Zone—Bill Up Again Friday.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The house gave its approval today to a provision of the army appropriation bill which would require the reduction by July of the regular army enlisted strength to 135,000 men and then proceeded to enter upon a prolonged discussion of whether congress should direct the return to the United States of certain troops stationed in China, Hawaii, the Panama Canal zone and on the Philippine Islands.

Representative Crago, republican, Pennsylvania, raised a point of order against the provision on the ground that congress was attempting to usurp the power of the president. The point was overruled by Representative Longworth, who declared that congress in appropriating for maintenance of troops could properly place the limitations on the president and the war department. The bill will be taken up again Friday.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Eight hours more of oratory on the four power Pacific treaty went into the senate record today as the ratification debate approached its conclusion.

So many senators wanted to get their views recorded before the hour for voting Friday that for the first time since the debate began the senate recessed for dinner and met again in the evening to let the discussion wear itself out.

Senator Fomeroy, Ohio, democrat, took up the fight for ratification with a speech telling his party colleagues they could not consistently oppose the four power pact if they had honestly favored the league of nations. He characterized the treaty as a "pocket edition" of the celebrated article ten of the league covenant, and said that although he would have preferred the league or the "Association of Nations" advocated by President Harding, it would be inexcusable to reject the regional understandings now offered.

LaFollette Breaks Out. Senator LaFollette, republican, Wisconsin, denounced the treaty as a British-Japanese scheme to merge the Anglo-Japanese alliance into another alliance binding the United States to support imperialistic policies in the Pacific and the Far East. In any conference, he said, the American representative was certain to be out voted by a Japanese-British combination.

Although some of the "irreconcilable" group declared they had consolidated an opposition totalling to within two or three votes of enough to defeat ratification, the administration leaders insisted the margin would be much greater. The leaders also stood pat that no reservation would be adopted except the "no alliance" declaration.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The case of Charles D. Jones, lawyer and banker, on trial here since last Friday on one of five indictments charging breach of trust and misappropriation of funds of the Lancaster Mercantile company while he was its president, went to the jury at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

No report had come from the jury room up to midnight.

LANCASTER BANK JURY STILL OUT AT MIDNIGHT

SWEAR THAT DODGE ACTUALLY REFUSED TO TAKE A DRINK, (ONCE)

(By The Associated Press) KALAMAZOO, Mich., March 22.—John Duval Dodge, son of the late John F. Dodge, automobile manufacturer of Detroit, was acquitted by a jury in municipal court today on a charge of driving an automobile while intoxicated.

Dodge was also charged with illegal possession of liquor, and on this was bound over to the April term of circuit court.

Miss Sue Stegenga and Miss Kwackernack, who were in the party, testified at Dodge's trial that he had refused a drink, once anyway, tendered him by Rex Earl of Kalamazoo, another participant. Miss Stegenga reiterated this statement at Dodge's hearing today.

QUAKES FELT ALL AROUND ST. LOUIS

Shocks in City and at Points in Missouri and Kentucky 160 Miles Distant.

(By The Associated Press) ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 22.—Earth tremors lasting 18 seconds and beginning at 8:22 o'clock this evening, were registered on the seismograph at St. Louis University. The quake was described as not as severe as the first one at 4:30 this afternoon but was felt in St. Louis and southeast Missouri and Southern Illinois.

POPULAR BLUFF, Mo., March 22.—Earth tremors were felt here about 4:26 o'clock this afternoon and lasted 15 seconds. A number of points in southeast Missouri reported the shock.

HICKMAN, Ky., March 22.—Earth tremors severe enough to shake buildings and lasting several seconds were felt here this afternoon.

PADEUAH, Ky., March 22.—Two earth tremors were felt here today, one at 4:26 o'clock this afternoon and the other at 8:24 tonight.

LITTLE HOPE OF STAVING OFF BIG COAL STRIKE—MEN GET IN SHAPE FOR THE WALKOUT

Length of Strike Not Estimated, But Will Continue Until Surplus Stocks Depleted.

(By The Associated Press) INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 22.—Without hope apparently of developments forestalling the coal strike set for April 1, officials of the United Mine Workers of America tonight declared that the miners were ready for a general suspension of many weeks' duration.

While no official forecast of the length of the strike was made, it was indicated authoritatively that the union officials felt that any wage conference with operators of the central competitive field was doubtful until the big coal stocks now on hand had been depleted.

Last Two Months. Operators here said that the stocks on hand would meet the country's requirements for two months and that meanwhile non-union fields could supply almost half of the normal demands.

While the strike in the soft coal fields hinges on the situation in the central competitive field, which is the union's basis for wages of all soft coal districts, the strike in Pennsylvania anthracite fields may be ended before that in the soft coal fields.

Still in Deadlock. After being closed for two days in joint conference, members of the anthracite miners' and operators' wage arbitration committee of eight, announced tonight that they were still at a deadlock.

Mr. Lewis today refused to consider seriously the suggestion of Frank Farrington, president of the Illinois bituminous district, for negotiation of a separate agreement with operators which would permit Illinois workers to disregard the general strike edict.

DOCTORS HAVE DAY IN THE ARBUCKLE CASE

(By The Associated Press) SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—Dr. Arthur Beardslee, resident physician of the Hotel St. Francis and the first doctor called to attend Miss Virginia Rappe, film actress, was one of the principal witnesses today in the third trial of Roscoe C. (Fatty) Arbuckle, film comedian, on a manslaughter charge growing out of Miss Rappe's death. Dr. W. E. E. Wakefield, proprietor of the sanitarium where the film actress died, was another witness.

TWO MORE ARRESTS IN COLUMBIA CAR STRIKE

(By The Associated Press) COLUMBIA, S. C., March 22.—Two new arrests growing out of the disorders of Monday, the holding of two other men who were arrested Tuesday for the higher court and the arrest of a union man for causing the stopping of a car were developments in the street car strike situation today.

HILL MAN DEAD; EX-CHIEF SHOT IN HOT BATTLE

(By The Associated Press) MACON, Ga., March 22.—Federal prohibition officers, working under the personal direction of W. H. Hahr, agent in charge of the middle-Georgia district, engaged in a pitched battle with alleged moonshiners in Emanuel county late today. Ed F. Newberry, formerly chief of detectives in Macon and now a member of the raiding forces, was shot three times. He will recover, according to reports.

P. Barwick, 49, alleged moonshiner, was taken to a hospital at Swainsboro, where he died.

One group of officers was almost upon two big copper stills when the other group engaged in the gun fight. They were a half-mile apart.

Hahr and E. C. Pearce, who were at the stills, rushed to the aid of Newberry and E. E. Nelson, who were engaged in the pitched battle. They found Barwick helpless on the ground and Newberry wounded.

Returning to the scene, the officers found that the still had been carried away in a wagon. They followed the wagon tracks to a creek and recovered two stills from the stream, with 12 barrels of beer and a considerable amount of manufactured whiskey, all of which was destroyed.

BUSINESS BACK TO NORMAL SAYS BUREAU

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, March 22.—Business is gradually approaching normal, according to figures compiled by the department of commerce up to Monday, and while the favorable movement has not been evenly distributed among the different industries, the improvement in those industries which "constitute the backbone of American business" has been "very marked" over conditions of a few months ago.

The outstanding change in conditions during recent weeks, the department's report said, has been the "substantial increase" in prices of agricultural products with the exception of tobacco, for February over January. Compared with December last the improvement has been still more marked.

MORATORIUM IS GIVEN TO GERMANY

Germany Roused to Storm of Protest by Conditions and Cabinet May Fall.

(By The Associated Press) PARIS, March 22.—A partial moratorium has been given Germany for her reparations payments in 1922, according to a decision of the reparations commission, made public here today.

The plan carries with it a specific obligation on the part of Germany to raise 60,000,000,000 marks, paper, in additional capital taxes, to float an international loan to balance her budget; to stop the exportation of capital and make the Reichbank independent, to radically reduce expenses, to submit to a system of supervision, and either to float an international loan or to make a levy on capital to raise a substantial sum for reparations.

The moratorium is conditional upon the fulfillment of the conditions of the commission by May 31, which may be revoked later if Germany does not continue to comply with them.

BERLIN, March 22.—The decision of the reparations commission, with the details of the payments to be made and the guarantees to be given, were printed in the afternoon papers here today. The decision fell like a bombshell in the official quarters in Wilhelmstrasse and the Reichstag and created anger and dismay. The news arrived during a sitting of the foreign affairs committee, which was attended by the chancellor and other ministers. The sitting was immediately suspended and a cabinet council was summoned.

It was asserted that if the decision of the commission is persisted in, the Weir cabinet will fall.

POLITICIANS NEED A DRESSING, SAYS FORD

(By The Associated Press) LAKELAND, Fla., March 22.—"The politicians need dressing down and they will get it and some of them should be replaced by preists and preachers," Henry Ford said between trains here today in commenting on a statement by Thomas A. Edison at Jacksonville last night, that "too much politics" would prevent the Detroit manufacturer's acquisition of the Muscle Shoals property.

He referred to the seating of Senator Newberry of Michigan as an evidence that politicians should be swept into the discard.

SAY BONUS BILL TO PASS HOUSE BY NIGHTFALL TODAY

Last Preliminary Step Made Thursday Special Suspension Day for Passage.

DEMOCRATS TO FIGHT TO THE LAST DITCH

Repubs Claim Far More Than the Necessary Two-Thirds Majority for Success.

(By The Associated Press) WASHINGTON, March 22.—Extreme confidence that the soldier bonus bill would be passed by the house before sundown tomorrow was expressed today by republican leaders in charge of the legislation.

The last preliminary step was taken today with the adoption by the rules committee of a resolution making tomorrow a special suspension day and setting aside four hours instead of the usual forty minutes for debate.

This resolution was to be presented when the house convened at 11 a. m., tomorrow, an hour ahead of the usual time. Democratic leaders planned to make a determined fight against the resolution, but the republicans were satisfied that it would obtain the necessary majority for its adoption.

Gillett Ready. With the adoption of the rule, Speaker Gillett was expected to recognize Chairman Fordney of the ways and means committee for a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bonus bill.

A two-thirds majority would be necessary to suspend the rules and pass the bill, but it was stated on all sides that more than this majority would be obtained. Leading supporters of the measure did not expect the total votes against it to exceed 75, while some opponents said the negative vote probably would not go beyond 50.

Hospital Bill. After a conference today with President Harding and his bill to appropriate \$17,000,000 for hospitals for sick and disabled veterans, Representative Langley, republican, Kentucky, announced that he would try to call the measure up ahead of the bonus bill. Representative Mondell of Wyoming, the majority leader, and Chairman Campbell of the rules committee said, however, that he would be unsuccessful. Mr. Mondell said the hospitalization bill would be taken up soon.

MEDIATION IS DEAD, VERDICT TEXTILE BOARD

(By The Associated Press) PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 22.—Formal announcement is expected tomorrow by the state board of mediation and conciliation that it has abandoned all attempts to settle the textile strike in Rhode Island and that it will take no further steps in the situation unless requested by both sides.

Tomorrow marks the beginning of the third month of the walkout and a survey of the strike area shows 21 plants employing nearly 19,000 persons closed and 15 others running with only a part of their usual number of employees between 5,500 and 6,000 being out in those establishments.

GUILTY OF KILLING SLAYER OF FATHER

(By The Associated Press) DOUGLAS, Ga., March 22.—Robert Merritt was found guilty of murder, with a recommendation of mercy, by a jury tonight in connection with the shooting of Walter Harper three years ago. He was sentenced to a life term in prison. A similar sentence imposed last year was reversed by the supreme court. Two years before this killing, Harper killed the father of Robert Merritt. Three years ago young Merritt was serving a sentence on a chain gang when Harper passed. Young Merritt grasped a shotgun from a convict guard and shot Harper.

SYPHONED \$100,000 OF LIQUOR FROM BARRELS

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Theft of \$100,000 worth of liquor from the Sherwood Distillery company's plant at Cockeysville, Md., was discovered today by internal revenue investigators.

The whiskey is said to have been siphoned out of 25 barrels into large containers on trucks Sunday night. In addition, it was asserted, 150 cases of bottled in bond liquor was taken.

PERMANENT TARIFF MEASURE BY APRIL 1

WASHINGTON, March 22.—With all the important schedule except those dealing with wool and dyes practically completed, republicans of the Senate finance committee are driving ahead in an effort to have the permanent tariff bill ready for the Senate by the first of April. The wool schedule will be taken up again tomorrow and senators hope to complete it and the dye schedule by the last of the week.

MIGHT USE BIG DIRIGIBLES TO CARRY PLANES

(By The Associated Press) WASHINGTON, March 22.—Secretary Weeks had before him tonight for examination the report of the special army board investigating the wrecking of the army semi-rigid dirigible Roma at Hampton, Va., recently with the loss of many lives. The secretary declined to make public the board's findings, but said he expected to give out the report tomorrow.

No definite decision has been reported by the war department as yet on the question of whether the Roma is to be replaced in the army air service. Mr. Weeks said this decision was not necessarily dependent in any way upon the findings of the board which investigated the disaster.

One possible use for ships of the Roma type is that they might act in war time as airplane carriers to take airplanes to a distant zone of action. It was pointed out today that the flying of airplanes or balloons over Mexican or Canadian territory in time of peace has met with objections, and officials believe that in such an emergency a lighter-than-air dirigible like the Roma could be employed to carry planes quickly and entirely by a sea route.

COUNTRY NEEDS "COME ON LET'S GO SPIRIT"

(By The Associated Press) NEW YORK, March 22.—"The country needs a little more 'come on let's go' spirit and a little less 'thou shalt not'."

That is how Will Hays, new commander in chief of the motion picture industry and former postmaster general summed up the business situation as he sees it today.

ASHEVILLE POLICEMAN WAS PROH VIOLATOR

(By The Associated Press) ASHEVILLE, N. C., March 22.—A. J. Floyd, former policeman here and in Spartanburg, S. C., was found guilty on three charges of violating state prohibition laws in superior court today. He stated he had resigned from the force following charge of drinking on duty.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT DEFEATED ON IRISH PENSION BILL BY A 42 TO 40 VOTE BY THE LORDS

Will Not Involve the Fate of the Ministry at This Time, It Is Believed.

(By The Associated Press) LONDON, March 22.—The government was defeated in the house of lords this evening by the adoption of an amendment to the Irish Free State bill to guarantee pensions to Irish civil servants. The vote was 42 to 40.

The defeat of the government by two votes is not likely to involve the fate of the ministry at the present stage. The amendment will be rejected by the house of commons and when the bill is returned to the house of lords the rejection probably will be accepted in accordance with the statement of Lord Lansdowne in the upper house Tuesday that if it became a choice between the lords' proposed amendments and the measure itself he would favor dropping the amendments, when the bill came back from the commons.

Apart from this incident, tonight's debate in the upper chamber was uneventful.

LURES GIRL TO HER DEATH AND KILLS SELF

(By The Associated Press) PATERSON, N. J., March 22.—Angered, it is said, because Miss Elsie Smith, a fellow employee, resented his attentions, Alphonse Byer, shipping clerk in Maple silk mills, today lured the young woman to a drying room, shot and mortally wounded her then fired a bullet through his own head. Both died in a hospital without regaining consciousness.

Attracted by moans of the wounded girl, workmen in the plant broke down the door, which Byer had locked on the inside. Byer was married and the father of two children.

COMPENSATION ACT TO PASS SAYS SENATOR

(By The Associated Press) CHICAGO, March 22.—Senator McCormick today sent assurances to General Milton J. Foreman, honorary past national commander of the American Legion that "the adjusted compensation act will shortly pass the house of representatives and also will pass the senate without undue delay."

SURGICAL OPERATION IN OPEN COURT IN A GEORGIA MURDER CASE

(By The Associated Press) MILLEN, Ga., March 22.—The unusual spectacle of a surgical operation being performed in open court before a jury was presented here today by the defense in the case of R. H. Chance, a justice of the peace, charged with the murder of Watson Allen last Christmas.

After testimony to the effect that Allen had fired upon Chance, his son, Roscoe Chance, and Sidney Rowe, Dr. C. Thompson removed from the arms of Roscoe Chance and Rowe several No. 4 shot which the defense claimed were similar to shots fired from Allen's shotgun.

The defense claimed the firing was unprovoked, and Rowe declared he took Allen's gun from him. Allen later brought out a pistol and opened fire.

ARREST GOVERNOR ON BRIBE CHARGE

Robertson of Oklahoma Submits to Warrant Issued in Guaranty Bank Case.

(By The Associated Press) OKMULGEE, Okla., March 22.—Governor J. A. B. Robertson of Oklahoma, submitted to arrest here tonight on a charge of accepting a bribe to permit operation of the Guaranty State Bank of Okmulgee while it was in an alleged insolvent condition. The governor immediately gave bond of \$5,000 for his appearance at trial.

Governor Robertson with Fred G. Dennis, former state banking commissioner, and several local capitalists, were named in indictments returned yesterday by the grand jury which investigated failures of state banks in Okmulgee county. The grand jury charged that alleged questionable manipulations had been conducted by a state bank, said to be insolvent and were continued after its purchase by another state bank here, culminating in the failure of the institution.

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DELIVERED TO POWERS DIRECT BY EMBASSIES

Instructions Sent U. S. Diplomats Under Specific Direction of Hughes.

U. S. CLAIMS MUST BE INSISTED UPON

Recent Information Is That Foreign Governments Apparently Ready to Ignore U. S.

(By The Associated Press) WASHINGTON, March 22.—The American army of occupation was sent into Germany and was continued there upon the basis of the right of the United States to "be paid its actual cost upon an equal footing with the allies," and this government "is unable to conclude that the justice of its claim is not fully recognized," according to identical communications delivered today by American diplomatic representatives to the governments of Belgium, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan.

Order of Hughes. The notes were delivered under instructions from Secretary of State Hughes, and were occasioned by recent information from American observers in Europe that the allied governments apparently contemplated arrangements which would ignore American army costs altogether, although estimates both for army costs and reparations were being made on the basis of the entire capacity of the German government to pay.

Can Have No Dispute. The amount of the claims of the United States for its army cost, the notes declared, was understood to be free from any substantial dispute, but it was deemed to be appropriate, "in view of recent developments," to acquit the allied governments with the repeatedly reiterated statement that the government of the United States was expecting full payment of the costs of its army in the Rhineland.

Basis of Claims. Basis for the American claim, the notes pointed out, was found in the armistice agreement, to which the United States was signatory, and which provided for military occupation of the Germany by the allied and American forces jointly. That agreement, the notes recited, expressly provided that the upkeep of the troops of occupation in the Rhine districts should be charged to the German government, and it was expressed as the view of the American government that

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EIGHT HOURS OF TALK ON TREATY

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